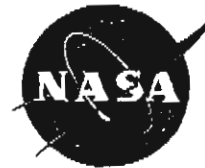


National Aeronautics and Space Administration

George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812



January 2, 2008

Reply to Attn of: LS01(DMW)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/ William J. Bierbower

SUBJECT: Blanket approval to Attend the Gala Celebration of the 50th
Anniversary of America in Space and the Grand Opening of the
Davidson Center for Space Exploration

In accordance with 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(2) and (3), I make the following determination:

NASA invitees, accompanied by their spouse or a guest, may attend the 50th Anniversary of America in Space and the Grand Opening of the Davidson Center for Space Exploration at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, Huntsville, Alabama, on Thursday, January 31, 2008. The evening's events are sponsored by the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in conjunction with over 30 co-sponsors.¹

The celebration of the 50th Anniversary of America in Space, the unveiling of the 160 million horsepower Saturn V, and follow on dinner, will take place as part of the opening and dedication of the new Davidson Center for Space Exploration at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. The 68,000 square foot Davidson Center for Space Exploration will house the original Saturn V lunar rocket vehicle and hundreds of additional artifacts from the manned space flight program. Exhibits will enable visitors to literally take a walking tour through America's history and future in space, starting with the first airplane that flew over Alabama to replicas of the next generation of spacecraft, the Ares I and Ares V launch vehicles, both being developed in Huntsville.

This combined event will be a widely-attended gathering of aerospace industry representatives and local civic and business leaders, the Governor and Lieutenant

¹ Co-sponsors include: The State of Alabama; SAIC; The Boeing Company; City of Huntsville; Madison County Commission; Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne; S3; BAE Systems; Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp.; Camber Corporation; Centurytel; Northrop Grumman; Aerojet; Andrews Space, Inc.; Ares Corporation; ATK; Beason & Nally; Betty Huth Schonrock; Bridge Street Town Centre; Burger King; Colsa Corporation; Corr Wireless; Davidson Technologies, Inc.; EG&G Technical Services, Inc.; Gray Research; Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau; Huntsville Marriott; Jacobs ESTS Group; MJLM; Oak Grove Technologies; Philip Dotts-Public FA, Inc.; Port of Huntsville, Redstone Federal Credit Union; United Space Alliance; University of Alabama at Huntsville; and the Saturn V Restoration Project

Governor of Alabama, members of Congress, members of the Madison County Legislative Delegation, NASA and other government employees, and members of the public. The event is valued at \$65.00 per person and approximately 1300 persons have been invited to attend. The event is fully funded by the U.S. Space and Rocket Center and co-sponsors. I find that the reception meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(2).

I have determined that free attendance at the above mentioned event is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. The attendance of NASA employees at the event will help to raise NASA's profile with state and local business and governmental leaders, will contribute to community relations, and will support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information about its activities. Given the purpose of the event, the broad attendance anticipated, and the modest market value of this social event, I have determined that the value to the agency in having employees attend this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may or may appear to improperly influence them in the performance of their duties.

Accordingly, NASA employees that have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for accompanying spouses or guests. NASA employees with senior institutional or project responsibilities who feel that their duties may in some way substantially affect the sponsors listed in the footnote are not covered in this determination and should contact Devinti M. Williams, at (256) 544-0012, to seek a determination pursuant to 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(3)(i), regarding their participation in this event.



William A. Bierbower
Chief Counsel

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812



January 2, 2008

Reply to Attn of: LS01(DMW)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/ William A. Bierbower

SUBJECT: Approval for MSFC and Headquarters Employees with Senior Institutional or Project Responsibilities to Attend the Gala Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of America in Space and the Grand Opening of the Davidson Center for Space Exploration

In accordance with 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(2) and (3), I make the following determination:

MSFC and Headquarters employees with senior institutional or project responsibilities have been invited to attend the 50th Anniversary of America in Space and the Grand Opening of the Davidson Center for Space Exploration at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, Huntsville, Alabama, on Thursday, January 31, 2008. The evening's events are sponsored by the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in conjunction with over 30 co-sponsors.¹

The celebration of the 50th Anniversary of America in Space, the unveiling of the 160 million horsepower Saturn V, and follow on dinner, will take place as part of the opening and dedication of the new Davidson Center for Space Exploration at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. The 68,000 square foot Davidson Center for Space Exploration will house the original Saturn V lunar rocket vehicle and hundreds of additional artifacts from the manned space flight program. Exhibits will enable visitors to literally take a walking tour through America's history and future in space, starting with the first airplane that flew over Alabama to replicas of the next generation of spacecraft, the Ares I and Ares V launch vehicles, both being developed in Huntsville.

¹ Co-sponsors include: The State of Alabama; SAIC; The Boeing Company; City of Huntsville; Madison County Commission; Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne; S3; BAE Systems; Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp.; Camber Corporation; Centurytel; Northrop Grumman; Aerojet; Andrews Space, Inc.; Ares Corporation; ATK; Beason & Nally; Betty Huth Schonrock; Bridge Street Town Centre; Burger King; Colsa Corporation; Corr Wireless; Davidson Technologies, Inc.; EG&G Technical Services, Inc.; Gray Research; Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau; Huntsville Marriott; Jacobs ESTS Group; MJLM; Oak Grove Technologies; Philip Dotts-Public FA, Inc.; Port of Huntsville, Redstone Federal Credit Union; United Space Alliance; University of Alabama at Huntsville; and the Saturn V Restoration Project

This combined event will be a widely-attended gathering of aerospace industry representatives and local civic and business leaders, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Alabama, members of Congress, members of the Madison County Legislative Delegation, NASA and other government employees, and members of the public. The event is valued at \$65.00 per person and approximately 1300 persons have been invited to attend. The event is fully funded by the U.S. Space and Rocket Center and co-sponsors. I find that the reception meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(2).

Of the 1300 persons expected to attend, many are representatives from companies or institutions that are currently involved in significant contractual matters relating to MSFC and NASA Headquarters. The MSFC and Headquarters personnel that have been invited to attend this event presently, or may in the near future, have extensive involvement in matters relating to companies or institutions that will be in attendance at the event.² I have determined that free attendance of these senior institutional and project leaders at the event is in the interests of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. The attendance of these senior institutional or project leaders at the event will help to raise NASA's profile and will support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information about its programs.

Given the purpose of the event, NASA's interest in it, the broad attendance anticipated, and the modest market value of the event, I have determined that the value to the agency in having these MSFC and Headquarters employees attend this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may or may appear to improperly influence them in the performance of their duties. Accordingly, the MSFC and Headquarters employees that accept the invitation may accept free attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for accompanying spouses or guests.

If you are an MSFC or Headquarters employee, whose name is not listed in footnote two of this determination who has senior institutional or project responsibilities, and you wish to attend the event, or if you have any questions about this determination, please contact Devinti M. Williams at 256-544-0012.



William A. Bierbower
Chief Counsel

² These personnel include: NASA Administrator; NASA Associate Administrator; MSFC Center Director; MSFC Deputy Center Director; MSFC Associate Center Director; Director, MSFC Engineering Directorate; and Manager, Exploration Launch Office.